

Founded in 1960 as the Institute for Polar Studies, The Byrd Polar Research Center focuses on the history and evolution of global climate systems and the role of cold regions in climate change. In 1987 the facility was renamed for famous American Polar Explorer, Admiral Richard E. Byrd. The Research Center now includes eight research groups, a library, an archival program, and the U.S. Polar Rock Repository. Undergraduate and graduate students at The Ohio State University are able to participate in and learn from this cutting edge facility that organizes expeditions around the world. To reconstruct past climate trends The Byrd Polar Research Center uses a variety of methods, including the study of chemical records preserved in ice cores collected from glaciers in Greenland, Asia, North and South America, and Antarctica.

Our planet is in peril and during this critical time The Byrd Polar Research Center has advanced our knowledge of how cold regions play a role in our Earth's changes. The phenomenon of climate change has been well documented in the scientific community by groups like The Byrd Polar Research Center. Climate change demands immediate attention and action; for fifty years The Byrd Polar Research Center has contributed to our understanding of climate change and our ability to mitigate and adapt to its effects.

The Byrd Polar Research Center strives to improve our understanding of the environment and the changes that are occurring to it and provides central Ohioans with a world-class education and research facility. I am proud to recognize and honor The Byrd Polar Research Center and its hard working staff for fifty years of dedication to the advancement of scientific understanding of the world around us.

#### RECOGNIZING HOPE LEARNING ACADEMY

**HON. DARRELL E. ISSA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a wonderful program operated by New Hope Community Church in Canyon Lake, California, that has set the standard for helping troubled youth by introducing a new concept to learning. Just this past weekend, Menifee Councilman Scott Mann and I had the pleasure to visit the Hope Learning Academy, seeing firsthand how this program's mentors steer at-risk youth onto a positive path and equip them with the tools they need to lead successful lives.

Regrettably, a substantial number of youth in our communities are failing school, struggling with behavioral issues in and out of the home, and many are "slipping through the cracks."

That is why Hope Learning Academy, which represents just one of the many ways that New Hope Community Church serves its community, is an outstanding example of providing at-risk youth with opportunities to grow. Their combination of guidance, encouragement and years of experience working with youth has proven successful in helping both students and parents implement a strategy of change in their lives during what are considered a teenager's most challenging years.

There is no question that the staff at Hope Learning Academy is committed to finding ways to help the youth in our community. They have effectively executed a niche program to put youth on a course for success while partnering with parents to give them the tools they need to effectively parent their child.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues please join me in recognizing the success of Hope Learning Academy and I look forward to hearing more about valuable programs such as this that make a positive difference in the lives of our local youth.

#### HONORING ERIC MICHAEL ROTHMIER

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Eric Michael Rothmier, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 138, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Eric has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Eric has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Eric Michael Rothmier for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### HONORING UTICA POLICE OFFI- CERS SCOTT BERGER AND MI- CHAEL PETRIE

**HON. MICHAEL A. ARCURI**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Speaker, in the early morning on Sunday, September 20th 2009, a great tragedy occurred in my hometown of Utica, New York. A horrific fire in an apartment building claimed the lives of four people.

While this loss of life can never be replaced, the loss would have been much more severe had it not been for the courageous acts of two Utica Police Officers, Scott Berger and Michael Petrie.

When Officers Berger and Petrie arrived on scene, the apartment building was heavily engulfed in smoke and flames. Without regard to their safety, Officers Berger and Petrie ran into the building and pounded on the doors on the first, second and third floors, yelling to residents to evacuate the premise.

While trying to enter the back door, an explosion blew out the door, which sent Officers Berger and Petrie scrambling for safety.

Due to their honor, courage and dedication to protecting the public, Officers Berger and Petrie were named Police Officers of the Year by the American Legion's Utica Post 229.

Madam Speaker, I call on my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Utica Police Depart-

ment, and specifically, Officers Berger and Petrie, for exemplifying the characteristics of true public servants. Our community and country is a better and safer place because of their efforts.

#### CONGRATULATING MR. DENNIS TICE

**HON. BILL SHUSTER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Dennis Tice for his recognition as Bedford County's Historian of the Year for 2010. Mr. Tice will receive his award at the Bedford County Historical Society Annual Banquet on April 24, 2010.

Mr. Tice earned this award for his commitment to chronicle Bedford County's World War II veterans. Recognizing the importance of the Greatest Generation's legacy, Mr. Tice began working on a project that would bring its story to life. The result of his efforts was a feature-length film entitled "Bedford County Veterans WWII," which premiered at the Pitt Theatre in Bedford in December of 2009, with 2,100 tickets sold to the public and many subsequent DVD sales. Such a reception by the people of Bedford County is a testament to the accuracy, accessibility, and authenticity of Mr. Tice's work.

Our World War II veterans have many inspiring stories to tell, and Dennis Tice's dedication to ensuring these stories are told is truly admirable. I commend Mr. Tice for his contribution to the understanding of our past, which shall guide and encourage us in our future. May his work continue to enrich Bedford County now and for years into the future.

#### HONORING STEPHEN SMITH

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2010*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Stephen Smith upon his retirement as Stanislaus County Assistant Auditor-Controller. Mr. Smith will be honored by the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors during a regularly scheduled Board of Supervisors meeting to be held on March 26, 2010.

Mr. Stephen Smith was born in New York and was raised in Germany, Virginia and California. Upon graduating from Atwater High School, he attended California State University, Stanislaus. In 1979 he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in accounting.

After earning his license as a Certified Public Accountant in 1981, Mr. Smith started his career with Stanislaus County as a Controller at the Scenic General Hospital. In 1983, he was promoted to the Chief Internal Auditor and in 1987 he was promoted to Chief Deputy Auditor-Controller. In 2002, Mr. Smith became the Assistant Auditor-Controller for the County. Mr. Smith has been a vital member of the Auditor-Controller's Strategic Plan development team. He served on the WORKS Purchasing Card implementation team, the Oracle 11i upgrade team and the Travel and Purchasing Card policy revision team. Mr. Smith